Katras which lack basic amenities like sewer, power, drinking water and there are environmental hazards also. The people living in these Katras lead a wretched life in the absence of these basic facilities. The condition of the poor is all the more appalling because of overcrowding in these small houses.

I would urge the Union Government to chalk out a scheme urgently for the development of slum Katras and to provide basic amenities viz. power, water, sewer and improvement of ecology to ameliorate the lot of the people living in these areas.

(iii) Need to open retail outlets of IFFCO and KRIBHCO in Aurangabad, Bihar.

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH (Aurangabad) : Farmers are predominent in Central Bihar but there is not a single IFFCO of KRIBHCO retail outlet there. The result is that the farmers are forced to purchase fertilizers at exorbitant rates and sometimes they are not available even at double the price.

I would request in Central Government to open a IFFCO and KRIBHCO retail outlet in Aurangabad at the earliest, keeping in view the larger interests of the farmers in Central Bihar.

(iv) Need to increase number of Indian Airlines flights between Calcutta — Agartala and Delhi.

[English]

SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY (Tripura West) : Sir, Tripura is connected with the rest of the country only through airlines. Indian Airlines and Modiluft were operating from Agartala to Calcutta thus connecting Tripura with the rest of the country. But modiluft has stopped its operation for the past one month resulting in hardships to hundreds of passengers, namely, students, businessmen, patients, common men, etc. Indian Airlines has also not increased its flights to fill up the vacuum. People in both sides at Agartala and at Calcutta are suffering as the State is not connected with rail services. I therefore urge upon the Government to look into the matter and see to it that two regular flights of Indian Airlines between Calcutta-Agartala and one regular Agartala-Delhi flight should immediately be started, so that this border State is not neglected any further and people of the State can interact with the rest of the country easily.

(v) Need to stop import of banned pesticides in the country.

[Translation]

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI (Dumariaganj) : In the years 1992-94, prominent American companies sold 1050 tonnes banned pestisides to India for ithe past serval years, these companies have been exporting thousands of tonnes of banned pesticides to developing and under-developed countries in violation of U.S. Government's directives, These pesticides primarily belong to Organophosphates, Carbomates, organoclorine and vipridial groups. Scientific studies carried out have revealed that Organophosphates and carbomates are like nerve gas and directly affect brain and the nervous system. Organochloorine also affects brain and the nervous system and causes cancer in the chest. Viprodial kills body cells which can prove fatal.

Studies carried out by an organisation named FASI has revealed that these companies exported 114,600 tonnes pesticides to the developing countries during the past five years. It is a serious matter and I would request the Government of India to impose a ban thereon immediately.

(vi) Need to allocate funds for linking Baramati-Lonad via Faltan Rail line.

SHRI HINDURAO NAIK NIMBALKAR (Satara) : Last year the old Daund Baramati metre gauge line was converted into broad gauge line I would suggest in order to mitigate the difficulties being encountered by the South bound passengers and to facilitate movement of freight, the aforesaid line should be linked with Poona, Niraj-Mangalore main line, which will connect Lonad with South. After this linkage, the South bound passengers will not be obliged to travel *via* Poona and would cut down town time taken in journey as well as for freight traffic. I would request the Ministry of Railways to take immediate steps to link Baramati with lonad via Faltan which would reduce the distance by 100 kilometres. There would be a saving of one day in the movement of freight also.

It is reliably learnt that the Ministry of Railways has completed the Survey work and accorded the necessary sanction.

I would request the Central Government to make provisions for the above mentioned project in the Supplementary Budget.

(vii) Need to expedite the work on extension of the runway of the Ahmedabad Airport.

[English]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad) : Sir, Ahmedabad being the State capital and an industrial city in Gujarat, Ahmedabad airport has been upgraded as an International airport and international flights have already commended from Ahmedabad airport. The inauguration was also done by the then Union Civil Aviation Miniser. According to the requirement of IAAI (International Airports Authority of India), additional land required for runway has been fully acquired by the State Government and handed over to IAAI long back for extension of runway of the airstrip. All the formalities have already been completed.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to issue necessary instructions to IAAI to start the work at the earliest.